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15 AUG 1968

Mr. James Clark
Director, International Programs Division
Bureau of the Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Jim:

During the past few months we have taken a rather close look at our external research and analysis program. Forwarded herewith is the resulting Special Study. You will note that we elected to expand this examination to include all external research and analysis contracts, rather than limit its scope to social, political and economic topics envisioned in the Bureau's letter of 11 April 1968 (Tab B, Special Studies). Though external research and analysis will command and receive our continuing scrutiny, we have in the process of this review satisfied ourselves that the program is essentially on target in terms of intelligence priorities and constitutes a critical element in our capabilities to produce finished intelligence.

The cost data for FY 1969 and FY 1970 should be interpreted as representing a planned level of support. The data for FY 1969 represents CIA's Budget request as submitted to the Congress and the figures for FY 1970 reflect Directorate submissions to the Program Call. Data for both years is currently being modified in the budgetary process and will be reflected as adjusted in the FY 1970 Budget Estimates.

We would, of course, welcome any comment or question you may have on this study.

Sincerely,

15/

John M. Clarke
Director of Planning,
Programming, and Budgeting

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Attachment:

Special Study

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